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318139

SOURCE: KODAKD.015021

DRAFTED BY: WHA/PPC:JVALLSNOYES:JVN -- 11/14/03 7-9964

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WHA:JDERHAM WHA:LJEWELL WHA:PDESHAZO WHA:PTRIVELLI

DESIRED DISTRIBUTION:

WHA

RELEASED IN PART
B1, 1.4(B), 1.4(D), B5

O 150302Z NOV 03

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WESTERN HEMISPHERIC AFFAIRS DIPL POSTS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 318139

OFFICIAL INFORMAL

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/14/13

TAGS: PGOV, PREL, ASEC, MARR, PARM, XM, XL, XS

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL INFORMAL: FOR WHA CHIEFS OF MISSION FROM
A/S NORIEGACLASSIFIED BY: WHA A/S ROGER F. NORIEGA FOR REASONS 1.5
(B) AND (D).

1. (U) THIS IS THE SECOND MONTHLY -I ON ISSUES AND
EVENTS KEEPING US BUSY IN WASHINGTON. THE RESPONSE TO THE
FIRST CABLE INDICATES THAT YOU FOUND THE INITIAL OCTOBER
CABLE USEFUL, SO WE WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE THE SAME SORT
OF INFORMAL AND UNCLEAR INFORMATION IN THESE CABLES.

2. (C) MUCH OF OUR ATTENTION IN THE PAST MONTH WAS FOCUSED
ON EVENTS IN BOLIVIA. IN RESPONSE TO SOCIAL UNREST THAT
LED TO SANCHEZ DE LOZADA'S RESIGNATION, DAS DESHAZO
TRAVELED TO LA PAZ OCTOBER 25-29 TO SHOW U.S. SUPPORT FOR
THE NEW PRESIDENT MESA.

WE WERE ALSO BUSY PREPARING FOR THE
SECRETARY'S VERY SUCCESSFUL TRIP TO CENTRAL AMERICA (MORE

ON THAT BELOW), THE RUN-UP TO THE FTAA MINISTERIAL, AND
THE BINATIONAL COMMISSION MEETING WITH MEXICO. AND, OF
COURSE, THE FRONT OFFICE WAS INVOLVED WITH OFFICE
DIRECTORS AND POST IN PICKING CANDIDATES TO FILL OUR
SUMMER 2004 OPENINGS. IT LOOKS LIKE WE WILL BE ACQUIRING

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE

REVIEW AUTHORITY: SHARON E AHMAD

CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL REASON: 1.4(B), 1.4(D)

DECLASSIFY AFTER: 15 NOV 2023

DATE/CASE ID: 13 MAY 2009 200706444

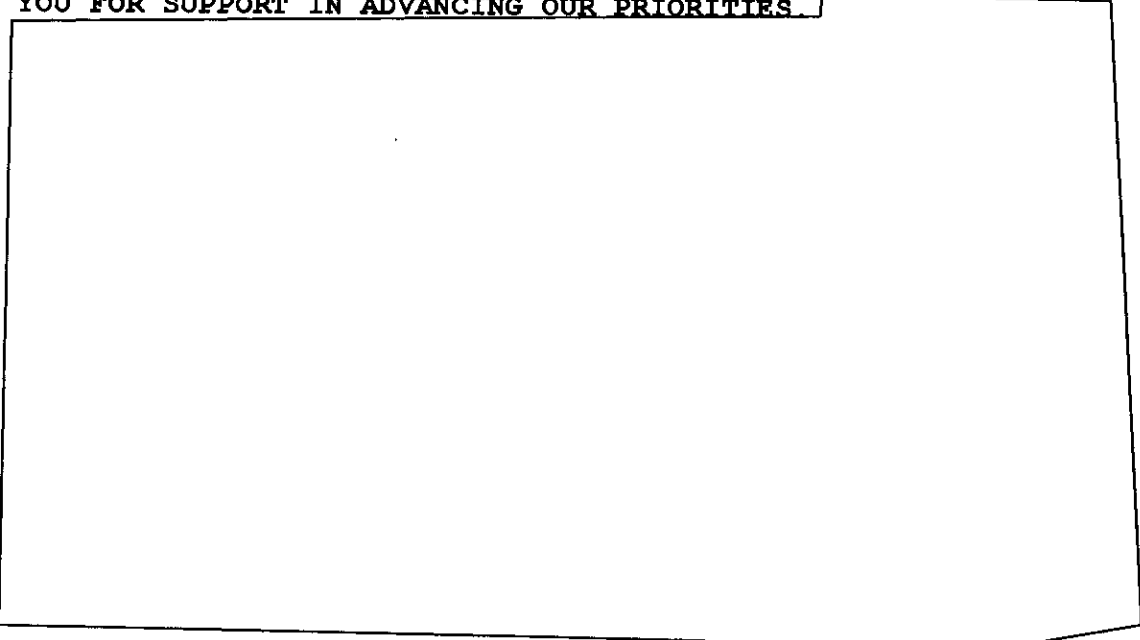
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SOME GREAT TALENT FOR THE TEAM.

3. (C) LOOKING AHEAD, THE SPECIAL SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS IS GETTING CLOSER EVERY DAY: OUR RELATED WORKLOAD IS ALSO INCREASING PROPORTIONATELY. WE EXPECT DIFFICULT NEGOTIATIONS IN ADVANCE OF THE JANUARY 12-13 SPECIAL SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS, AND WE WILL CONTINUE TO LOOK TO YOU FOR SUPPORT IN ADVANCING OUR PRIORITIES.



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4. (U) ALSO COMING UP IS ANOTHER DEPUTIES COMMITTEE MEETING TO ENDORSE OUR NEW WESTERN HEMISPHERE STRATEGY, FOR ADOPTION AS A NATIONAL SECURITY PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE ON RELATIONS WITH THE HEMISPHERE, AND A RELATED PUBLIC DIPLOMACY PLAN AND EVENTS MATRIX. WE'LL KEEP YOU INFORMED ON THAT. I MAY TESTIFY IN MID-DECEMBER BEFORE THE HIRC ON DEMOCRACY IN THE HEMISPHERE. AND I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING ALMOST ALL OF YOU AT OUR CHIEFS OF MISSION CONFERENCE DECEMBER 8-9; WE'VE PUT TOGETHER A GREAT

SCHEDULE FOR YOU. (WE'RE ALSO STARTING TO TALK ABOUT A CONFERENCE FOR DCM'S SOMETIME NEXT YEAR - MORE ON THAT LATER.)

5. (C) ECONOMIC POLICY (EPSC): TRADE IS ON THE FRONT BURNER. USTR ACHIEVED A LOOSE CONSENSUS ON A WAY FORWARD IN FTAA TALKS WITH 15 TRADE MINISTERS AT A NOVEMBER 8

LANDSOWNE "MINI-MINISTERIAL." THE CONSENSUS

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REAFFIRMS THE JANUARY 2005 FTAA DEADLINE AND MAINTAINS BROAD BASE STANDARDS WHILE ALLOWING THE MORE AMBITIOUS COUNTRIES TO OPT IN TO THE LANDSOWNE STATEMENT "ACKNOWLEDGES EXISTING MANDATES, BUT SAYS THAT

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COUNTRIES "MAY ASSUME DIFFERENT LEVELS OF COMMITMENT" TO THEM. IN ESSENCE, THE AGREEMENT CREATES A TWO-TIER SYSTEM, WITH A HIGH END FOR THE U.S. AND FTA PARTNERS AND A LOW END FOR [REDACTED] OTHERS [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] BUT WE WILL STILL HAVE TO WORK HARD AT THE NOVEMBER 17-18 VICE MINISTERIAL AND NOVEMBER 20-21 MINISTERIAL. USTR WILL ALSO HOLD EVENTS PRIOR TO THE NOVEMBER 20-21 FTAA MINISTERIAL HIGHLIGHTING OUR BILATERAL AND SUB-REGIONAL FREE TRADE AGENDA IN THE HEMISPHERE. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] THESE EVENTS WILL HELP MAINTAIN MOMENTUM TOWARDS HEMISPHERIC FREE TRADE.

6. (SBU) POLICY PLANNING (PPC): THANKS TO ALL OF YOU FOR YOUR TIMELY INTERVENTION AT A HIGH LEVEL ON THE UNGA VOTE ON ANTI-ISRAEL RESOLUTIONS. THE U.S.-SPONSORED UNWRA RESOLUTION PASSED OVERWHELMINGLY, IN LARGE MEASURE DUE TO SUPPORT FROM WESTERN HEMISPHERE COUNTRIES. UNDER SECRETARY GROSSMAN AND IO WERE ENORMOUSLY GRATEFUL TO WHA FOR OUR SUPPORT ON THIS. THE NEWS IS LESS GOOD WHEN IT COMES TO THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE BUDGET PICTURE FOR FY

2004. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY, I ENCOURAGE YOU TO START ENGAGING YOUR HOST GOVERNMENT ON THE ISSUE OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS (TIP): THIS IS A PRESIDENTIAL PRIORITY. BACKGROUND ON THIS IN STATE 311979. ON THE PERSONNEL FRONT, ON NOVEMBER 17, CEN DIRECTOR PAUL TRIVELLI WILL MOVE UPSTAIRS TO TAKE OVER THE HELM AT PPC.

7. (C) CENTRAL AMERICA (CEN): AS NOTED, SECRETARY POWELL'S TRIP TO PANAMA, NICARAGUA AND HONDURAS (NOVEMBER 3-4) WAS A GREAT SUCCESS, WITH THE SECRETARY JOKING THAT IT WAS NICE TO VISIT A REGION "WHERE THEY LIKE US." [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] ALL THREE STOPS AFFORDED THE SECRETARY THE OPPORTUNITY TO UNDERScore OUR ANTI-CORRUPTION EFFORTS AND THE LINK BETWEEN THE RULE OF LAW AND ATTRACTING BUSINESS INVESTORS TO THE REGION. GUATEMALA HELD PRESIDENTIAL AND CONGRESSIONAL ELECTIONS NOVEMBER 10 WITH A LARGER-THAN-USUAL VOTER TURNOUT AND RELATIVELY MINOR

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TECHNICAL PROBLEMS OR VIOLENCE. THERE WILL BE A RUN-OFF DECEMBER 28 AND WE EXPECT TO BE ABLE TO LAUNCH A CONSTRUCTIVE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE WINNER. ON THE CENTRAL AMERICA FTA TALKS, USTR HOSTED A MAJOR PUBLIC OUTREACH SESSION NOVEMBER 12 IN WASHINGTON, AIMED AT CONGRESSIONAL STAFF, LATIN AMERICAN INTEREST GROUPS AND THE U.S.

BUSINESS COMMUNITY. THE FINAL CAFTA ROUND (DECEMBER 8-12 IN WASHINGTON) WILL COVER THE TOUGHEST TOPICS (E.G., AGRICULTURAL MARKET ACCESS, DISPUTE SETTLEMENT). DEPUTY DIRECTOR JIM WAGNER WILL BECOME ACTING DIRECTOR WITH PAUL'S MOVE TO PPC.

8. (C) MEXICO: I TRAVELED TO MEXICO OCTOBER 27-29 ACCOMPANYING U/S GROSSMAN TO THE HEMISPHERIC SECURITY CONFERENCE AND HOLDING A FULL RANGE OF BILATERAL MEETINGS. I DELIVERED A SPEECH ON OUR HEMISPHERIC OBJECTIVES AND

[REDACTED]
ON NOVEMBER 12, WE HELD OUR ANNUAL BINATIONAL COMMISSION MEETING IN WASHINGTON, WITH THE SECRETARY PARTICIPATING IN WORKING GROUPS ON FOREIGN

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POLICY, MIGRATION AND CONSULAR AFFAIRS, AND HOMELAND SECURITY AND BORDER COOPERATION. THE ONE-DAY EVENT FEATURED EXCHANGES ON THE FULL RANGE OF BILATERAL ISSUES AND INCLUDED U.S. AND MEXICAN CABINET MEMBERS FROM 17 DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, IN ADDITION TO STATE AND SRE.

[REDACTED]
THE SECRETARY AND SRE DERBEZ SAW THE PRESIDENT, WHICH USEFULLY UNDERScoreD THE IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO THE BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP. THEY ALSO HELD AN HOUR-LONG MEETING TO DISCUSS BILATERAL AS WELL AS REGIONAL ISSUES. ON THE MARGINS OF THE BNC, WE HELD A PARTNERSHIP FOR PROSPERITY PRINCIPALS MEETING TO REVIEW THE YEAR'S WORK AND CHART A COURSE FOR NEXT YEAR. THAT MEETING FEATURED THE SIGNING OF AN AGREEMENT WITH PEACE CORPS THAT SHOULD PUT VOLUNTEERS IN MEXICO NEXT YEAR.

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9. (C) CUBA: [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]
WE ARE WORKING ON THE OTHER MEASURES ANNOUNCED BY THE PRESIDENT: INCREASING LEGAL MIGRATION FROM CUBA AND ESTABLISHING A COMMISSION ON ASSISTANCE TO A FREE CUBA. MEANWHILE, SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES NEGOTIATORS ON NOVEMBER 12 BOWED TO A THREATENED

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PRESIDENTIAL VETO AND KEPT THE BAN ON TRAVEL TO CUBA IN PLACE.

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10. (C) ANDES: BOLIVIAN OFFICIALS VISITED WASHINGTON

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[REDACTED] A RECENT SCANDAL LED TO THE RESIGNATION OF PERU'S TRADE MINISTER NOVEMBER 10: THE VICE MINISTER WHO REPLACED HIM WILL BE AN [REDACTED] CNC ESTIMATES INDICATE THAT COCA CULTIVATION IN PERU DECREASED 15 PERCENT IN 2003 BUT INCREASED 17 PERCENT IN BOLIVIA. IN COLOMBIA, POOR TURNOUT IN THE OCTOBER 25 ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL REFORM REFERENDUM RESULTED IN A DEFEAT FOR PRESIDENT URIBE. UNION LEADER LUIS EDUARDO GARZON WAS ALSO ELECTED MAYOR OF BOGOTA.

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[REDACTED] THE REFERENDUM PROCESS IN VENEZUELA CONTINUES TO MOVE FORWARD; OAS AND CARTER CENTER REPRESENTATIVES WILL SEND SMALL OBSERVATION TEAMS FOR THE UPCOMING SIGNATURE COLLECTION NEEDED TO CALL FOR A REFERENDUM ON CHAVEZ'S PRESIDENCY. WE WELCOME ADDITIONAL INTERNATIONAL OBSERVATION OF THE "FIRMAZO."

11. (C) BRAZIL/SOUTHERN CONE:

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[REDACTED] WE WELCOMED THE EXTENSION OF BRAZIL'S IMF ACCORD, A WIN/WIN OUTCOME THAT [REDACTED] THE GOB'S PRUDENT ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT IN LULA'S FIRST YEAR. ARGENTINA HAS REQUESTED CONSULTATIONS UNDER OUR BIT; [REDACTED] THE GOA'S INTEREST IS TO LIMIT THE RIGHTS OF MINORITY U.S. INVESTORS TO PREVENT THEM FROM PURSUING THEIR CLAIMS BEFORE ARBITRATION TRIBUNALS. PRIVATE CREDITORS REMAIN VERY UNHAPPY WITH THE GOA'S PROPOSAL FOR A 75 PERCENT (90 PERCENT IF INTEREST IS

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INCLUDED) HAIRCUT. THE CHILEAN SENATE APPROVED OUR
BILATERAL FTA ON NOVEMBER 12. MINOR DIFFERENCES IN THE
CHAMBER AND SENATE VERSIONS WILL BE RECONCILED AND THE

BILL SENT TO PRESIDENT LAGOS FOR SIGNATURE. BSC DIRECTOR
CARRAGHER VISITED PARAGUAY AND URUGUAY LATE LAST MONTH,



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12. (C) CANADA: THE CASE OF MAHER ARAR, A DUAL CANADIAN-
SYRIAN NATIONAL WHO WAS DEPORTED FROM THE UNITED STATES IN
SEPTEMBER 2002, ERUPTED WITH ARAR'S RETURN TO CANADA AND A
NOVEMBER 4 PRESS CONFERENCE IN WHICH HE ALLEGED THAT HE
WAS REPEATEDLY TORTURED WHILE IN SYRIAN CUSTODY. WE HAD
DETAINED ARAR ON THE BASIS OF INTELLIGENCE LINKING HIM TO
TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS, AND THE CANADIAN CONSULATE IN NEW
YORK WAS GIVEN ACCESS TO ARAR BEFORE HE WAS DEPORTED TO
SYRIA. THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT NOW FACES CALLS FOR AN
OFFICIAL INQUIRY.



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13. (U) PUBLIC DIPLOMACY: I REPORTED LAST MONTH THAT THE
NOMINATION FOR A NEW UNDER SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY
AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS WAS EXPECTED SOON. AS YOU ALL KNOW BY
NOW, THE PRESIDENT HAS NOMINATED MARGARET TUTWILER, FORMER
A/S FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS (1989-1992) AND MOST RECENTLY
AMBASSADOR TO MOROCCO. HER NOMINATION HAS ALREADY BEEN
APPROVED BY THE SFRC AND WILL BE VOTED ON BY THE FULL
SENATE SHORTLY. ONCE SHE ASSUMES HER DUTIES, PATRICIA
HARRISON WILL RETURN TO HER POSITION AS A/S FOR
EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS. IN THE LAST MONTH,
WHA/PDA HAS BEEN FOCUSED ON DEVELOPING PD PLANS TO SUPPORT

U.S. GOALS IN THE FTAA MINISTERIAL, THE CAFTA
NEGOTIATIONS, AND THE SPECIAL SUMMIT. IN ADDITION, PDA
WORKED WITH THE NSC, THE DEPUTIES COMMITTEE, AND POLICY
PLANNING STAFF TO DRAFT A PD STRATEGY FOR THE NEW NATIONAL

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15. (SBU) USOAS: THE INDIGENOUS RIGHTS WORKING GROUP COVERED TWO OF THE SIX SECTIONS OF THE DRAFT DECLARATION IN THE FIRST FORMAL ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS, NOVEMBER 10-12. A UNIQUE EVENT BECAUSE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' REPRESENTATIVES WERE ALLOWED TO PRESENT LANGUAGE PROPOSALS ON EQUAL FOOTING WITH MEMBER STATES, THE TALKS REACHED CONSENSUS OR PARTIAL CONSENSUS ON 8 ARTICLES, REFLECTING DIVERGENCE IN BRACKETS OR FOOTNOTES. WE STILL NEED TO SECURE SUPPORT FOR OUR POSITION THAT, WHILE SELF-IDENTIFICATION IS AN IMPORTANT DETERMINANT, STATES MUST HAVE A PROCESS BY WHICH THEY RECOGNIZE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES. THE DRAFT DECLARATION ALSO GRANTS RIGHTS TO COLLECTIVES THAT THE U.S. CONSIDERS CAN ONLY BE ENJOYED BY INDIVIDUALS (FOR EXAMPLE, MARRIAGE). OUR DELEGATION WORKED CLOSELY WITH THE CANADIANS TO FIX UNACCEPTABLE LANGUAGE AND CONSULTED AMPLY WITH NATIVE AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT. WHILE WE WERE ON OCCASION ISOLATED, WE NEGOTIATED IN A CONSENSUS-

SEEKING SPIRIT. THE NEXT NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE HELD JANUARY 26-28, 2004.
POWELL

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